



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

***Raised Bill No. 651***

LCO No. 3091

\*03091\_\_\_\_\_PH\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PODIATRIC MEDICINE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-54 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) No person other than those described in section 20-57 and those  
4 to whom a license has been reissued as provided by section 20-59 shall  
5 engage in the practice of podiatry in this state until [he] such person  
6 has presented to the department satisfactory evidence that [he] such  
7 person has had a high school education or its equivalent, has received  
8 a diploma or other certificate of graduation from an accredited school  
9 or college of chiropody or podiatry approved by the Board of  
10 Examiners in Podiatry with the consent of the Commissioner of Public  
11 Health nor shall any person so practice until he has obtained a license  
12 from the Department of Public Health after meeting the requirements  
13 of this chapter. A graduate of an approved school of chiropody or  
14 podiatry subsequent to July 1, 1947, shall present satisfactory evidence  
15 that he has been a resident student through not less than four graded  
16 courses of not less than thirty-two weeks each in such approved school  
17 and has received the degree of D.S.C., Doctor of Surgical Chiropody,

18 or Pod. D., Doctor of Podiatry, or other equivalent degree; and, if a  
19 graduate of an approved chiropody or podiatry school subsequent to  
20 July 1, 1951, that he has completed, before beginning the study of  
21 podiatry, a course of study of an academic year of not less than thirty-  
22 two weeks' duration in a college or scientific school approved by said  
23 board with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, which  
24 course included the study of chemistry and physics or biology; and if a  
25 graduate of an approved college of podiatry or podiatric medicine  
26 subsequent to July 1, 1971, that he has completed a course of study of  
27 two such prepodiatry college years, including the study of chemistry,  
28 physics or mathematics and biology, and that he received the degree of  
29 D.P.M., Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

30 (b) A licensed podiatrist may engage in the diagnosis and treatment,  
31 including appropriate medical and surgical treatment, of ailments of  
32 the ankle and the anatomical structures of the ankle and the  
33 administration and prescription of drugs incidental thereto, and  
34 treatment of local manifestations of systemic diseases as they appear  
35 on the ankle, provided:

36 (1) If such person was initially licensed to practice podiatry in this  
37 state prior to October 1, 2006, such person: (1) Is certified by either the  
38 American Board of Podiatric Surgery or the American Board of  
39 Podiatric Orthopedics and Primary Podiatric Medicine; and (2) has  
40 successfully completed (A) not less than two years of a surgical  
41 residency program accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical  
42 Education, and (B) not less than two years of practical training in ankle  
43 surgery, which shall include not less than \_\_\_\_ surgical procedures,  
44 under the supervision of a licensed podiatrist.

45 (2) If such person is initially licensed to practice podiatry in this  
46 state on or after October 1, 2006, such person: (1) Is certified by either  
47 the American Board of Podiatric Surgery or the American Board of  
48 Podiatric Orthopedics and Primary Podiatric Medicine; and (2) has  
49 successfully completed (A) not less than three years of a surgical

50 residency program accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical  
51 Education, and (B) not less than one year of practical training in ankle  
52 surgery, which shall include not less than \_\_\_\_ surgical procedures,  
53 under the supervision of a licensed podiatrist.

54 (c) No provision of this section shall be construed to prevent  
55 graduates of a podiatric college, approved by the Board of Examiners  
56 in Podiatry with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health,  
57 from receiving practical training in podiatry in a residency program in  
58 an accredited hospital facility which program is accredited by the  
59 Council on Podiatric Education.

60 Sec. 2. Section 20-59 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
61 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

62 The board may take any of the actions set forth in section 19a-17 for  
63 any of the following reasons: (1) Procurement of a license by fraud or  
64 material deception; (2) conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction,  
65 either within or without this state, of any crime in the practice of  
66 podiatry; (3) fraudulent or deceptive conduct in the course of  
67 professional services or activities; (4) illegal or incompetent or  
68 negligent conduct in the practice of podiatry; (5) habitual intemperance  
69 in the use of spirituous stimulants or addiction to the use of morphine,  
70 cocaine or other drugs having a similar effect; (6) aiding and abetting  
71 the practice of podiatry by an unlicensed person or a person whose  
72 license has been suspended or revoked; (7) mental illness or deficiency  
73 of the practitioner; (8) physical illness or loss of motor skill, including  
74 but not limited to, deterioration through the aging process, of the  
75 practitioner; (9) undertaking or engaging in any medical practice  
76 beyond the privileges and rights accorded to the practitioner of  
77 podiatry by the provisions of this chapter or providing services  
78 described in subsection (b) of section 20-54, as amended by this act,  
79 without the necessary qualifications specified in said subsection (b);  
80 (10) failure to maintain professional liability insurance or other  
81 indemnity against liability for professional malpractice as provided in

82 subsection (a) of section 20-58a; or (11) violation of any provision of  
83 this chapter or any regulation adopted hereunder. The Commissioner  
84 of Public Health may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable  
85 physical or mental examination if his physical or mental capacity to  
86 practice safely is the subject of an investigation. Said commissioner  
87 may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to  
88 enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17. The  
89 clerk of any court in this state in which a person practicing podiatry  
90 has been convicted of any crime shall, upon such conviction, make  
91 written report, in duplicate, to the Department of Public Health of the  
92 name and residence of such person, the crime of which such person  
93 was convicted and the date of conviction; and said department shall  
94 forward one of such duplicate reports to the board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	20-54
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	20-59

***Statement of Purpose:***

To expand the scope of practice of podiatric medicine to include medical and surgical treatment of the ankle.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*